

January 15, 2006

JAN 27 2006 00082

Paul A. Marshall
Department of Water Resources
South Delta Branch
c/o NCCFF
P.O. Box 8330
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Mr. Marshall,

I am writing to make you aware that I oppose actions proposed in the draft EIR/EIS for the South Delta Improvements Program. This proposal will only further compromise/complicate the ecology of the Bay-Delta regions. The proposed dredging, water-gate barriers, increased pumping and increased water exports will only worsen the Bay-Delta ecosystem. These proposed changes will lead to changes in water quality, the amount of water, and the natural composition of the Delta and Bay water which will change the natural flora and fauna of these areas. Increasing the water diversion and decreasing volume from the delta will reduce the "flushing action" into the SF Bay and surrounding tidelands forever changing the area for millions of people. Although the proposal suggests that the amount of water diverted is ONLY 3-5%; however, any amount will have a severe environmental impact to the delta and to the SF Bay.

Instead of the measures proposed by the Department of Water Resources-- the increase diversion, new gates, dredging, and agricultural modifications, I suggest instead reducing the pumping rates and water exports from the Delta. Instead restore the natural delta ecosystem—have it be as it should—natural wetlands. Dredging and barriers will only reduce the wetlands, affect ecology, affect the flora and fauna, affect fish and game resources, increase potential for floods, and decrease water quality in SF Bay and Delta water regions.

Our need for water can be met through conservation, reclamation, and efficiency. Not by physically altering the Delta region forever.

Thank you,



James I. Mangels
2311 Tucker Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95403